High Cost of Higher Education

† 728. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the means of higher education are becoming costlier in the country day by day for students and the general public;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Central Government have been adding fuel to fire by increasing fees of Central Universities and membership-fee of public libraries like Sahitya Academy;

(c) if so, whether Government would withdraw such moves;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, .the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (e) the information will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Reforming Higher Education/Universities

729. SHRI VKAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken initiatives recently for reforming/upgrading/strengthening higher education and universities;

(b) if so, the details regarding comprehensive plan of action for the current year and the Ninth Five year plan;

(c) the details of proposals received/finalised/under consideration; and

(d) the details of proposals for joint ventures /Foreign Direct Investment in educational institutions received and action taken?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The Government and UGC have taken initiatives from time to time for reforming

† Original notice of the Question was recived in Hindi.